FACSIMILE RECEIPT CERTIFICATE

HURRICANE WORK LLC

Versus

QUERBES & NELSON, ET AL



Case: 073670 Division: 11th Judicial District Court Parish of Sabine State of Louisiana

TO: MARTIN K MALEY SR P.O. BOX 3154 BATON ROUGE, LA 70821

VIA FAX 1-225-346-6788

CERTIFICATE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that a PETITION FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT & DAMAGES was transmitted by facsimile from your office to the Sabine Parish Clerk of Court fax line 318-256-9037 and 12 total pages were received and marked filed and received on FEBRUARY 13, 2025 in the above captioned matter.

Thus done and signed at Many, Sabine Parish, Louisiana, on this the $13^{\mathrm{TH}}\,$ day of FEBRUARY, 2025.

Atty:

Shelly Salter Clerk of Court

By: Deputy Clerk of Court

Louisiana R.S. 13:850. Facsimile transmission; filings in civil actions; fees; equipment and supplies

- A. Any paper in a civil action may be filed with the court by facsimile transmission. All clerks of court shall make available for their use equipment to accommodate facsimile filing in civil actions. Filing shall be deemed complete at the time that the facsimile transmission is received and a receipt of transmission has been transmitted to the sender by the clerk of court. The facsimile when filed has the same force and effect as the original.
- B. Within seven days, exclusive of legal holidays, after the clerk of court has received the transmission, the party filing the document shall forward the following to the clerk:
- (1) The original signed document.
- (2) The applicable filing fee, if any.
- (3) A transmission fee of five dollars.
- C. If the party fails to comply with the requirements of Subsection B, the facsimile filing shall have no force or effect. The various district courts may provide by court rule for other matters related to filings by facsimile transmission.

REMIT \$_850.00___ plus \$5 transmission fee.

[FILED COPY]

Case Number: 073670 Transaction Date: 2/13/2025 Seq: 66 Page Sequence: 1

STATEMENT

Clerk of Court - Sabine Parish

Shelly Salter Clerk of Court 11th Judicial District

P.O. BOX 419 Many, LA 71449 Phone : (318) 256-6223

Statement Date
02/14/2025

Case Number 073670 Amount Due \$67.00

Attorney Firm: MARTIN K. MALEY APLC
Attorney Name: MALEY, MARTIN K SR

IN RE:

HURRICANE WORK LLC VS.

VS. QUERBES & NELSON

Party: Plaintiff - HURRICANE WORK LLC

Date	Description	Amount
02/14/2025	Court costs to date in above entitled numbered matter	\$67.00
	Refunds	\$0.00
	Advance Deposit	\$0.00
	Balance	\$67.00
	Advance Deposit Required	\$0.00
	Total Due	\$67.00

Thank You

MARTIN K. MALEY APLC P.O. BOX 3154 BATON ROUGE, LA 70821

Partie Partie

Case 5:25-cv-00842-SMH-MLH Document 1-1 Filed 06/16/25 Page 3 of 62 PageID #:
Feb. 13. 2025 2:33PM Maley Law Firm 14
MARTIN K. MALEY, APLC
No. 2376 P. 1/12

Attorneys & Counselors

Martin K. Maley, Sr. William Maley, Staff Attorney Erica Higginbotham, Secretary Miranda Miller, Paralegal

Telephone: 225-346-6781 Facsimile: 225-346-6788 Of Counsel: Stephen M. Irving Anthony "Tony" G. Falterman RECEIVED AND FILED

73670

2025 FEB 13 P 2: 35

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET SHELLY SALTER OLERK OF COURT SABINE PARISH

	1
Date:	2/13/2025
To:	11th JDC Clerk of Court
Fax Number:	318-256-9037
From:	Miranda Miller – mlflegal paralegal@eatel.net
RE:	HUMCane Work IIC vs Querbes Nelson, A Dartnership, et al
Pages:	- 12
comments:	
· - ·	

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION AND ANY DOCUMENTS ACCOMPANYING IT MAY CONTAIN CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION BELONGING TO THE SENDER WHICH IS PROTECTED BY THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE. THE INFORMATION IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY NAMED ABOVE. IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISCLOSURE, COPYING, DISTRIBUTION OR THE TAXING OF ANY ACTION IN RELIANCE ON THE CONTENTS OF THIS INFORMATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITIED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS TRANSMISSION IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY BY TELEPHONE TO ARRANGE FOR THE RETURN OF THE DOCUMENTS.

Mailing Address: MALEY LAW FIRM, P. O. BOX 3154, BATON ROUGE, LA 70821 Email: mkmaley@eatel.net Website: www.maleylawfirm.net Physical Offices: Baton Rouge, Port Allen, Napoleonville

property of

Case 5:25-cv-00842-SMH-MLH

Document 1-1

Filed 06/16/25 Page 4 of 62 PageID #:

Attorneys & Counselors

Martin K. Maley, Sr. William Maley, Staff Attorney Erica Higginbotham, Secretary Miranda Miller, Paralegal

Via FedEx: 772068086879

Telephone: 225-346-6781 Facsimile: 225-346-6788

Of Counsel: Stephen M. Irving Anthony "Tony" G. Falterman RECEIVED AND FILED

February 14, 2025

2025 FEB 18 P 2: 06

SHELLY SALTER CLERK OF COURT SABINE PARISH

Honorable Shelly Salter Sabine Parish Clerk of Court

400 South Capitol Street, Room 102 Many, LA 71449

> Re: Hurricane Work, LLC vs. Querbes & Nelson, et al Docket No. 073670, Div.

Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana

Dear Clerk:

Enclosed, please find the original pleading in the matter, which was fax filed with your office on February 13, 2025. Also, please find our firm's check in the amount of \$855.00, which will cover the cost of the filing fee, service, and transmission fee.

Once filed, please return a stamp filed copy to my office, using the enclosed envelope.

Should you need anything further, please contact Erica Higginbotham, who will be happy to assist you.

With kind regards, I remain,

Sincerely,

Martin K. Maley, cn Martin K. Maley, Sr.

Enclosures

Mailing Address: MALEY LAW FIRM, P. O. BOX 3154, BATON ROUGE, LA 70821 Website: www.maleylawfirm.net Physical Offices: Baton Rouge, Port Allen, Napoleonville

Case Number: 073670 Transaction Date: 2/18/2025 Seq: 63 Page Sequence: 1

1-1-1-1-1-1

RECEIVED AND FILED

HURRICANE WORK, LEC FEB 13 P 2:35

SHELLY SALTER NUMBER: 73,070 DIV: CLERK OF COURTSTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

SABINE PARISH

PARISH OF SABINE

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, ET AL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PETITION FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT AND DAMAGES

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsel, comes Hurricane Work, LLC, (hereafter referred to as "Hurricane") a limited liability company created under the laws of Puerto Rico, solely doing business in Puerto Rico, whose corporate office is in Louisiana, in the Parish of Sabine, who with respect represents the following:

NAMED DEFENDANTS HEREIN

- 1) QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP; and
- 2) NELSON HOLDINGS PARTNERSHIP; and
- 3) QUERBES & NELSON, INC; and
- 4) PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK BROKERS, LLC; and
- 5) NAVIGATORS INSURANCE COMPANY.

Plaintiff HURRICANE WORK, LLC, hereafter ("HURRICANE") a limited liability company created under the laws of Puerto Rico, solely doing business in Puerto Rico, but its corporate office and headquarters, is in the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana. The events which are set forth below occurred in Louisiana in Sabine Parish, and the insurance policy at issue was delivered to Plaintiff in Sabine Parish, on a Louisiana insurance policy form.

Named defendants herein are QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, an entity created under the laws of an unknown jurisdiction, possibly Louisiana, that is licensed as an insurance producer by the Louisiana Department of Insurance, and does or did business in Caddo Parish, Louisiana; NELSON HOLDINGS PARTNERSHIP a partnership created under the law of Louisiana, headquartered in and is doing business is the State of Louisiana in Caddo Parish which

entity may be an alternate name for, or successor entity of defendant QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP; and QUERBES & NELSON INC. QUERBES & NELSON INC is a Louisiana corporation doing business in Caddo Parish which is alternatively alleged to be a successor entity to defendant QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP and/or to have done business with Plaintiff as defendant QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP. These entities will hereafter be referred to collectively as "QUERBES & NELSON" unless specifically stated otherwise. PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK BROKERS LLC (hereafter "PEACHTREE") is an entity created under the laws of the State of Georgia which has qualified to do business in the State of Louisiana and on information and belief has been licensed as an insurance producer by the State of Louisiana under the name PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK, LLC. Also, a named Defendant is NAVIGATORS INSURANCE COMPANY, hereafter "Navigators." Navigators is a foreign insurance company domiciled in the State of New York that is admitted to and doing business in the State of Louisiana.

3.

Plaintiff, HURRICANE, contracted with QUERBES & NELSON beginning approximately 2018 to purchase insurance for its business operations. HURRICANE was created to do work in Puerto Rico and exclusively does business in Puerto Rico even though its corporate headquarters is in Louisiana. Through QUERBES & NELSON Hurricane purchased a policy of casualty insurance from Navigators Insurance Company, through an entity represented to be an agent of Navigators, Defendant, PEACHTREE. The Policy provided insurance on certain scheduled pieces of heavy equipment listed in the policy. This policy was renewed each year after 2018 and was in effect on February 14, 2024. From time to time the equipment scheduled in the policy was changed for business reasons. At the execution of the insurance contract, Hurricane was not supplied a complete copy of the insurance policy, just the declarations page, and the schedules. Hurricane relied on the representations of QUERBES & NELSON that the policy would provide coverage for the equipment listed in the policy.

4

Prior to the initial purchase of the policy, QUERBES & NELSON was fully informed about Plaintiff's business operations. Hurricane is a contractor solely providing services in Puerto Rico, one of which is the cleanup of debris from natural disasters. QUERBES & NELSON was

specifically told that Plaintiff used subcontractors to perform part, or all the tasks that Plaintiff contracts to perform. Plaintiff expressly and intentionally purchased a policy and bought coverage from Navigators under which equipment belonging to Plaintiff's subcontractors, could be insured as scheduled equipment on Plaintiff's insurance policy. This fact was known to QUERBES & NELSON. QUERBES & NELSON assured Plaintiff that the policy that was issued provided coverage for such equipment belonging to subcontractors, working for Plaintiff and there was no need to name the subcontractors as additional insureds, if the equipment was on the policy schedule.

5.

This coverage was necessary because Plaintiff has contracts to perform work in diverse remote locations, and the equipment belonging to the subcontractors must remain at Plaintiff's job site until the job is done. The insurance provides assurance that Plaintiff will have equipment available to perform the work, at the remote locations that Plaintiff's contracts require.

6

The Policy, which was issued by NAVIGATORS, does in fact, contain a clause under the heading "Covered Property" stating that "Scheduled Equipment" includes equipment belonging to subcontractors is covered. The policy shows PEACHTREE as the agent on the policy.

7

In another section the Policy has a clause stating that the policy only insures the insured's "insurable interest" in the equipment.

8.

QUERBES & NELSON knew that the subcontractors were not named as additional insureds under the policy, but in fact owned some equipment listed on the policy schedule and represented that this fact was transmitted to Navigators and Navigators accepted the premiums from Plaintiff, with that knowledge.

9.

As reported to Plaintiff, prior to February 14, 2024, certain scheduled items of heavy equipment at a Plaintiff job site in Puerto Rico were stolen. The theft was discovered by the subcontractor on February 14, 2024, and the claim was reported to Navigators. Navigators

subsequently issued a <u>RESERVATION OF RIGHTS LETTER</u> to Plaintiff, stating that Navigators reserved the right to deny this claim. Navigators asserted that the Plaintiff did not have an insurable interest in the stolen equipment, even though the facts were exactly as represented to QUERBES & NELSON.

10.

Plaintiff as a part of the work in Puerto Rico had subcontracted with GRINDCO, LLC. (hereafter "GRINDCO) to mulch the green waste storm debris at various disposal sites. After subcontracting with Grindco, the equipment belonging to Grindco was scheduled on Plaintiff's policy with Navigators. The equipment was then moved to a location known as "Isabella Recycling" in Puerto Rico which was to be the final resting place of the mulched material. This equipment was moved based on the representation that it was fully insured under the NAVIGATORS policy issued to Plaintiff.

11.

At least the following items, Inter Alia, of scheduled equipment under the policy belonging to Grindco were placed at the Disposal Site, for use on the job in anticipation of the performance of the subcontract obligation, to mulch storm debris cleared from roadways (2019) and were discovered missing on February 14, 2024:

PROPERTY MISSING ON OR ABOUT FEBRUARY 14, 2024 (11 PIECES):

New Holland Excavator Serial: NFTN55394 Model: E55BX

JCB Mini Excavator Serial: JC808040A0105674 Model:840

Hogzilla Track Mounted Tub Grinder Serial: 2026 Model: 1464T

Hogzilla Tub Grinder Serial:566 Model:TC#15-64P

Komatsu Excavator Serial:30107 Model: PC308USLC-3EO

Volvo Loader Serial: G17227 Model: L90G

Volvo Loader Serial: G17093 Model: L90G

Volvo Excavator Serial: 210435 Model: 220D

Volvo Excavator Serial: 210437 Model: 220D

Mitsubishi Dozer Serial: ZB103448 Model: BDZG II

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John Deere Serial: DW644JX596442 Model:644J

The value of the missing equipment is in excess of \$1 Million.

12.

Certain other equipment was reported to Navigators as missing in 2019 and Navigators has maintained an open claim as to the following items.

PROPERTY MISSING SINCE 2019:

Takeuchi Serial: 123503829 Model:

Takeuchi Serial: 124001037 Model:

As a result of this claim Navigators was fully aware of the risk that was insured under its policy that the equipment was being used in Puerto Rico.

13.

Hurricane reported the theft to Navigators, through QUERBES & NELSON on February 14, 2024, and the theft was also reported to the local police in Puerto Rico. The thief or thieves have not yet been identified, to date, and the equipment has not been recovered. The equipment is not available to Grindco to do the work, Grindco subcontracted to do for Plaintiff.

14

Navigators took very limited action to investigate the claim and has not paid the claim, to date.

15.

After taking little action to investigate the claim, for eight months, on September 26, 2024, Navigators provided to Plaintiff the reservation of rights letter mentioned above.

16

The reservation of rights letter stated on page 2, that there is a question as to whether Plaintiff had an <u>insurable interest</u> in the stolen property.

17.

The insurance policy that Navigators issued to Plaintiff is policy number NY23ILM0BI1B4-01. This insurance policy will henceforth be referred to as "The Policy".

18.

The relevant effective dates for the 2024 claim on the policy were February 16, 2023, until February 16, 2024. The Plaintiff could not renew the policy, at its expiration on February 16, 2024, because the equipment in question had been stolen.

19.

The Policy was issued to Hurricane Work, LLC, and signed in Louisiana on a Louisiana

Insurance form.

20.

The Policy contained the following forms and endorsements:

CL 100	03-99 COMMON POLICY CONDITIONS
IM 7005	01-12 SCHEDULE OF CVGS-CONTRACTORS' EQUIPMENT
ADDENDUM	4 A EQUIPMENT SCHEDULE
IM 7000	04-04 CONTRACTORS' EQUIPMENT COVERAGE SCHED-EQUIP
IM 7034	01-12 TOOLS ENDORSEMENT
IM 7035	01-12 EQUIPMENT LEASED OR RENTED TO OTHERS SCHED
IM 7013	04-04 EQUIPMENT LEASED OR RENTED TO OTHERS ENDT
IM 7036	07-11 EQUIPMENT LEASED OR RENTED FROM OTHERS SCHED
IM 7012	07-11 EQUIPMENT LEASED OR RENTED FROM OTHERS ENDT
IM 7870	01-12 SPLIT DEDUCTABLE ENDORSEMENT
IM 7039	07-11 BELOW THE SURFACE OF THE GROUND EXCLUSION
IM 7902	01-12 LOSS PAYABLE SCHEDULE
IM 7854	04-04 LOSS PAYABLE OPTIONS
CL 0196	03-17 AMENDATORY ENDORSEMENT-LOUISIANA
IM 2037	10-22 AMENDATORY ENDORSEMENT-LOUISIANA
CL 0610	01-15 CERTIFIED ACT OF TERRORISM EXCLUSION
CL 0700	10-06 VIRUS OR BACTERIA EXCLUSION

21.

The schedule of equipment attached to the policy listed all the equipment identified in Paragraph 11.

22.

After Navigators issued the reservation of rights letter sent September 26, 2024, contending that Plaintiff had no insurable interest in the equipment reported stolen. Plaintiff sued Navigators seeking a declaratory judgment in the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana determining that there is coverage for the equipment. The United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana has not made a final determination that it has jurisdiction over the declaratory judgment action. Though the magistrate has, on a preliminary basis, found jurisdiction. For that reason, the allegations against Navigators made below are made alternatively, in the event that the Federal Court determines that it does not have jurisdiction.

23.

Plaintiff is entitled to a DECLARATORY JUDGMENT interpreting the insurance policy at issue determining that Plaintiff, in fact has an insurable interest in the equipment of its subcontractors scheduled in the policy, specifically including the equipment listed above in Paragraph 11, and that under the terms of the policy the equipment is insured against theft, which policy was in full force and effect on February 14, 2024.

24

La. C.C.P. Art 1873 provides for the issuance of a DECLARATORY JUDGMENT, interpreting a contract, regardless of whether there has been a breach of the contract.

25.

Plaintiff is entitled to a DECLARATORY JUDGMENT interpreting the insurance policy at issue, determining that Plaintiff in fact, has an insurable interest in the equipment of its subcontractors scheduled in the policy, specifically including the equipment listed above in Paragraph 11. Under the terms of the policy the equipment is insured against theft, which policy was in full force, and effect on February 14, 2024.

26.

It is alleged alternatively that QUERBES & NELSON provided some or all the information that it had about Plaintiff's business to PEACHTREE and that the knowledge to PEACHTREE constituted knowledge to NAVIGATORS and NAVIGATORS knew that it was insuring the subcontractor equipment under Plaintiff's policy.

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27.

It is alleged alternatively that QUERBES & NELSON was negligent and failed to provide sufficient information to PEACHTREE and/or NAVIGATORS for NAVIGATORS to issue a policy insuring the risk that Plaintiff contracted with QUERBES & NELSON to insure.

28.

It is alleged alternatively that QUERBES & NELSON provided sufficient information to PEACHTREE to understand the risk which was being insured, and PEACHTREE was negligent and failed to provide NAVIGATORS with sufficient information to issue a policy insuring the risk that Plaintiff contracted with QUERBES & NELSON to insure.

29.

After the reservation of rights letter was issued QUERBES & NELSON advised Plaintiff to start listing the subcontractors as insureds on its policy even though throughout the existence of the policy to that point QUERBES & NELSON had advised Plaintiff that this was not necessary.

30.

It is alleged that either QUERBES & NELSON or PEACHTREE, or both, were negligent in providing the earlier representation to Plaintiff that it was not necessary to name the subcontractors as additional insureds on the policy.

31

La. Stat. Ann. § 22:1892 provides the following:

- I (2) Any one of the following acts, if knowingly committed or performed by an insured, claimant, or representative of the insured or claimant, constitutes a breach of the insured's duties imposed in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection:
- I (2)(a) A failure to comply with affirmative contractual duties or obligations established in the insurance policy, including the duty to act in good faith in providing information regarding the claim, in making demands of the insurer, in setting deadlines, and in attempting to settle the claim.
- I (2)(b) A misrepresentation of pertinent facts or insurance policy provisions relating to any coverages at issue.

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32.

If it is determined that Navigators reservation of rights is correct, and there is no insurable interest in the lost equipment, then QUERBES & NELSON, and/or PEACHTREE, misrepresented the facts concerning insurance coverage under the policy, when Plaintiff was advised that it was not necessary to name the subcontractors as insured parties under the policy, and when they collected the premiums.

33.

The misrepresentation of the coverage under the insurance policy, has at least resulted in a delay of payment of the claim by Navigators, and may cause further damage if the claim is not paid.

34.

Plaintiff is entitled to a JUDGMENT AWARDING PENALTIES AND ATTORNEY FEES for the misrepresentation of the policy terms.

35.

In the alternative, if this there was no coverage for the equipment provided under the policy for the scheduled equipment, Plaintiff is entitled to reimbursement of the seven years of policy premiums, plus penalties and interest, be returned to Hurricane Work, LLC, without any further delay.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Hurricane Work, LLC, prays alternatively for relief in that the Court as follows:

1. If the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana determines that it has no jurisdiction then Plaintiff prays that this Court enter a Declaratory Judgment under La. C.C.P. Art 1871-1873 determining that Plaintiff in fact, has an insurable interest, in the equipment of its subcontractors scheduled in the policy, specifically including the equipment listed herein, and that under the terms of the policy the equipment is insured against theft, which policy was in full force and effect on February 14, 2024;

No. 2376 P. 11/12

- 2. Of this Court or the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana determines that there is no coverage for the claim under the policy then Plaintiff prays for damages against QUERBES & NELSON and/or PEACHTREE in such an amount as is reasonable and proper under the allegations set forth above including all benefits which would be due under the policy if it provided the coverage that Plaintiff contracted for.
- 3. and The Court award Plaintiff penalties and attorney fees under La. R.S. 22:1892 for breach of the duty of good faith and fair dealing;
- 4. Alternatively, in the event that the Court determines that the contractors equipment scheduled on the policy is not in fact covered, because Hurricane does not have an insurable interest in the scheduled property, then Hurricane prays for judgment in favor of Hurricane Work, LLC and against QUERBES & NELSON and/or PEACHTREE in the amount of all premiums paid for the insurance policy from its inception in 2018 until it's expiration in 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin K. Maley, Sr., La. Bar Roll No. 20933 Stephen M. Irving., La. Bar Roll No. 7170 William E. Maley, La. Bar Roll No. 41328

Maley Law Firm PO Box 3154

Baton Rouge, LA 70821 Telephone: (225) 346-6781 Facsimile: (225) 346-6788 Email: mkmaley@eatel.net

Steve@steveirvingllc.com Mlflegal_William@catel.net Attorneys for Hurricane Work, LLC

PLEASE SERVE THE DEFENDANTS AS FOLLOWS:

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP George D. Nelson, Jr. PLEASE WITHOLD SERVICE FOR 90 DAYS

NELSON HOLDINGS PARTNERSHIP George D. Nelson, Jr. PLEASE WITHOLD SERVICE FOR 90 DAYS

QUERBES & NELSON, INC Through its agent for service of process: Case 5:25-cv-00842-SMH-MLH Document 1-1 Filed 06/16/25 Page 15 of 62 PageID Feb. 13. 2025 2:38PM Maley Law Firm #: 26 No. 2376 P. 12/12

George D. Nelson, Jr.
PLEASE WITHOLD SERVICE FOR 90 DAYS

PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK BROKERS, LLC Through its agent for service of process: PLEASE WITHOLD SERVICE FOR 90 DAYS

NAVIGATORS INSURANCE COMPANY
Through its agent for service of process:
PLEASE WITHOLD SERVICE FOR 90 DAYS

Case 5:25-cv-00842-SMH-MLH

Document 1-1

Filed 06/16/25

Page 16 of 62 PageID

Attorneys & Counselors

Martin K. Maley, Sr. William Maley, Staff Attorney Erica Higginbotham, Secretary Miranda Miller, Paralegal

Of Counsel: Stephen M. Irving Telephone: 225-346-6781 Facsimile: 225-346-6788 IVED AND Anthony EDny" G, Falterman

February 26, 2025025 FEB 27 P 3: 43

Via FedEx: 772335367000

Sabine Parish Clerk of Court 400 South Capital, Room 102 Many, LA 71449

SHELLY SALTER CLERK OF COURT SABINE PARISH

Hurricane Work, LLC V. Querbes & Nelson, A Partnership, et al No. 73670, 11th Judicial District Court, Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana

Honorable Shelly Salter,

Enclosed, please find an original and one copy of Plaintiff's Motion to Amend Caption. Please file this into the captioned record and return one file stamped copy to me, using the selfaddressed stamped envelope provided.

Also enclosed please find my firm's check in the amount of \$100.00 to cover the costs for filing, should any amount be due.

Additionally, we would request that service be withheld to all parties at this time.

With kind regards, I remain,

Sincerely,

Martin K. Maley, Sr.

Marton Maley an

property of

RECEIVED AND FILED 2025 FEB 27 P 3: 43

magnitude 2 79

HURRICANE WORK, LLC SHELLY SALTENUMBER: 73670

DIV:

CLERK OF COURT

SABINE PARISH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

v.

PARISH OF SABINE

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, ET AL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO AMEND CAPTION

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsel, comes Plaintiff, Hurricane Work, LLC, who respectfully represents it desires to amend the original Petition for Declaratory Judgment and Damages, as follows:

1.

Plaintiff re-alleges all of the allegations and contentions stated in the original Petition for Declaratory Judgment and Damages, with the following modifications adopted by reference with the same force and effect as if herein set forth at length.

2.

Plaintiff desires to correct the caption on the original pleading due to inadvertently putting the "8th Judicial District Court". Plaintiff seeks to correct the judicial district to read, "11th Judicial District Court".

3.

Leave of the court is not necessary to file this request to amend the caption because no answers has been filed, to date.

Wherefore, Plaintiff, Hurricane Work, LLC, prays that each and every allegation and prayer in the original Petition for Damages not amended by these pleadings be incorporated by reference in its entirety and for all relief requested in the original petition.

[Signature on following page]

Martin K. Maley, Sr., La. Bar Roll No. 20933 Stephen M. Irving., La. Bar Roll No. 7170 William E. Maley, La. Bar Roll No. 41328

Maley Law Firm PO Box 3154

Baton Rouge, LA 70821 Telephone: (225) 346-6781 Facsimile: (225) 346-6788 Email: mkmaley@eatel.net

Steve@steveirvingllc.com $Mlflegal_William@eatel.net$ Attorneys for Hurricane Work, LLC

PLEASE WITHHOLD SERVICE AT THIS TIME:

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP

George D. Nelson, Jr. 207 Texas Street Shreveport, LA 71101

NELSON HOLDINGS PARTNERSHIP

George D. Nelson, Jr. 207 Texas Street Shreveport, LA 71101

QUERBES & NELSON, INC

Through its agent for service of process: George D. Nelson, Jr. 207 Texas Street Shreveport, LA 71101

PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK BROKERS, LLC

Through its agent for service of process: Corporation Service Company 450 Laurel Street, 8th Floor Baton Rouge, LA 70801

NAVIGATORS INSURANCE COMPANY

Through its agent for service of process: Louisiana Secretary of State 8585 Archives Ave Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Case 5:25-cv-00842-SMH-MLH Document 1-1 Filed 06/16/25 Page 19 of 62 PageID

MARTIN K. MALEY, APLC

Attorneys & Counselors

Martin K. Maley, Sr. Erica Higginbotham, Secretary Miranda Miller, Paralegal

Via FedEx: 881051282002

Telephone: 225-346-6781 \(\) Facsimile: 225-346-6788

Of Counsel: Stephen M. Irving Anthony (Tony) (E.F.) iterman

7025 HAY -8 P 2: 36

May 7, 2025

Honorable Shelly Salter Sabine Parish Clerk of Court 400 South Capitol Street, Room 102 Many, LA 71449 SHELLY SALTER CLERK OF COURT SABINE PARISH

Re: Hurricane Work, LLC vs. Querbes & Nelson, et al Docket No. 73670, Div. Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana

Dear Clerk:

With regard to the above captioned matter, on February 13, 2025, my office fax filed a Petition for Declaratory Judgment, and then on February 27, 2025 filed a Motion to Amend Caption. It was also requested that service be withheld on those filings at that time.

Pursuant to CCP Art. 1201 (C), Service of the citation shall be requested on all named defendants within ninety days of commencement of the action. I respectfully request that you issue service of the *Petition for Declaratory Judgment* and *Motion to Amend Caption*, on the defendants as follows:

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP

George D. Nelson, Jr. 207 Texas Street Shreveport, LA 71101

NELSON HOLDINGS PARTNERSHIP

George D. Nelson, Jr. 207 Texas Street Shreveport, LA 71101

QUERBES & NELSON, INC

Through its agent for service of process: George D. Nelson, Jr. 207 Texas Street Shreveport, LA 71101

PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK BROKERS, LLC

Through its agent for service of process: Corporation Service Company 450 Laurel Street, 8th Floor Baton Rouge, LA 70801

Mailing Address: MALEY LAW FIRM, P. O. BOX 3154, BATON ROUGE, LA 70821 Physical Offices: Baton Rouge, Port Allen, Napoleonville

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Case Number: 073670 Transaction Date: 5/8/2025 Seq: 49 Page Sequence: 1

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NAVIGATORS INSURANCE COMPANY

Through its agent for service of process: Louisiana Secretary of State 8585 Archives Ave Baton Rouge, LA 70809

I have enclosed my firm's check in the amount of \$500.00, to cover the cost of this request for service to the five defendant parties. Additionally, please file this correspondence requesting service into the food and return a stamped filed copy to my office using the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

Should you need anything further, please contact Erica Higginbotham, who will be happy to assist you.

With kind regards, I remain,

Martin K. Maley, con Martin K. Maley, Sr.

Enclosures

Mailing Address: MALEY LAW FIRM, P. O. BOX 3154, BATON ROUGE, LA 70821 Physical Offices: Baton Rouge, Port Allen, Napoleonville

Page 2 of 2

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State of Louisiana

CITATION

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HURRICANE WORK LLC

Versus

RECEIVED AND FILED

QUERBES & NELSON, ET AL

2025 101 Q 5 5 h.1,2

Case: 073670 Division: 11th Judicial District Court Parish of Sabine

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP To: GEORGE D. NELSON, JR. 207 TEXAS STREET SHREVEPORT, LA 71101

Parish of CADDO

Atty:

Recipient_

You are hereby summoned to comply with the demand contained in the PETITION FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT AND DAMAGES & PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO AMEND CAPTION a true and correct copy (exclusive of exhibits) accompanies this citation, or make an appearance, either by filing a pleading or otherwise, in the 11th Judicial District Court in and for the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana, within twentyone (21) days after service hereof, under penalty of default.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL, at Many, Parish of Sabine, Louisiana, on this, the 9TH day of MAY, 2025. Shelly Salter

Clerk of Court

Maelyran Swindle

By: Deputy Clerk of Court

SERVICE INFORMATION Moved, address unknown __ Moved, served at new address of _ Moved out of parish __ Address not in Sabine Parish __ Does not live at address given Vacant Residence __ Vacant Lot ___ No such address __ Not known at this address __ Need physical address Received too late for service Deceased Other ___ Request to hold service by_ Attempted service date/time/note: Attempted service date/time/note: Attempted service date/time/note: Attempted service date/time/note: 4NU susan Masin 5-14-25 0911 PERSONALLY served on date. DOMICILIARY served on date: Served upon Relationship: __MILEAGE one way __ UNABLE TO LOCATE after a due and diligent search on date:

Deputy Sheriff_

[ORIGINAL]

Sabine Parish Sheriff's Department-

NOTICE OF SERVICE

HURRICANE WORKLLC

Versus

QUERBES & NELSON, NELSON HOLDINGS PARTNERSHIP, QUERBES & NELSON INC, PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK BROKERS LLC, NAVIGATORS INSURANCE CO

Case: 073670 Division:

11th Judicial District Court

Parish of Sabine State of Louisiana

TO: MARTIN K MALEY SR P.O. BOX 3154 BATON ROUGE, LA 70821

Date of Service: May 14, 2025

Number of Service: 3 - NELSON HOLDINGS PARTNERSHIP, QUERBES & NELSON A PARTNERSHIP & QUERBES & NELSON INC ALL THRU GEORGE D NELSON JR

Personal/Domiciliary: PERSONAL

Issued by the Clerk of Court on the 19TH day of MAY, 2025.

Shelly Salter

Clerk of Court

Maelynn Swindle

By: Deputy Clerk of Court

Pleading Served: PETITION FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT

[FILED COPY]

HURRICANE WORK LLC		park to see the second	Case: 073670 Division:
Versus	PCor uso		11th Judicial District Court Parish of Sabine
QUERBES & NELSON, ET A	RECEIVED AND FILED		State of Louisiana
	Cherry Same		_
	CL KU CURT		
To: NELSON HOLDING GEORGE D. NELSO 207 TEXAS STREET SHREVEPORT, LA	ON, JR. T		
Parish of CADDO			
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otherwise, in the 11th Judio	cial District Court in and for the	Parish of Sabine, State of	Louisiana, within twenty-
one (21) days after service	hereof, under penalty of default.		
GIVEN UNDER MY	HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL, o	at Many, Parish of Sabine,	Louisiana, on this, the
9 TH day of MAY, 2025.		Shelly Salter	OF LOUIS
		Martyrn Sundle	
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		Sabine Parish Sheriff's Departmen	tLouisiand

[ORIGINAL]

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HURRICANE WORK LLC

Versus

QUERBES & NELSON, ET AL

RECEIMED AND FILED 28% 13 11 47 2025 R.J. 19 A II: 12

Case: 073670 Division: 11th Judicial District Court Parish of Sabine State of Louisiana

SHELLY SULTER CLUIK OF COURT SABINE PARISH

To: QUERBES & NELSON INC
THROUGH ITS AGENT FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS
GEORGE D. NELSON, JR
207 TEXAS STREET
SHREVEPORT, LA 71101

Parish of CADDO

You are hereby summoned to comply with the demand contained in the PETITION FOR DECLARATORY

JUDGMENT AND DAMAGES & PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO AMEND CAPTION a true and correct copy

(exclusive of exhibits) accompanies this citation, or make an appearance, either by filing a pleading or

otherwise, in the 11th Judicial District Court in and for the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana, within twentyone (21) days after service hereof, under penalty of default.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL, at Many, Parish of Sabine, Louisiana, on this, the 9TH day of MAY, 2025.

Shelly Salter

Clerk of Court

Naelymn Swindle

By: Deputy Clerk of Court

Atty:

	SERVICE INF	ORMATION
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Deceased	Other	Request to hold service by
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MILEAGE one way		

[ORIGINAL]

HURRICANE WORK LLC

QUERBES & NELSON, ET AL

Case: 073670 Division:

11th Judicial District Court Parish of Sabine State of Louisiana

RECEIVED AND FILED

SPELLY SALTER CLERK OF COURT SABINE PARISH

PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK BROKERS LLC THROUGH ITS AGENT FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY 450 LAUREL STREET, 8TH FLOOR BATON ROUGE, LA 70801

Parish of EAST BATON ROUGE

You are hereby summoned to comply with the demand contained in the PETITION FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT AND DAMAGES & PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO AMEND CAPTION a true and correct copy (exclusive of exhibits) accompanies this citation, or make an appearance, either by filing a pleading or otherwise, in the 11th Judicial District Court in and for the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana, within twentyone (21) days after service hereof, under penalty of default.

	GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND OF	FICIAL SEAL, at Many, Parish of Sabine,	Louisiana, on this, the
9 TH	day of MAY, 2025.	Shelly Salter	OF LOUIS
		Clerk of Court	E LOUIS LOUI
		M Low Dair Ve	

Atty:

By: Deputy Clerk of Court

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UNABLE TO LOCATE after a	due and diligent search on date:		
Recipient	Deputy Sheriff		
		Sabine Parish Sheriff's Department	Louisiana

[ORIGINAL]

HUR	RICA	NE	WORK	LLC

Versus

Recipient

QUERBES & NELSON, ET AL

Case: 073670

Division:

11th Judicial District Court

Parish of Sabine State of Louisiana

RECEIVED AND FILED

SALTER COURT SABINE PARISH

NAVIGATORS INSURANCE COMPANY THROUGH ITS AGENT FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS LOUISIANA SECRETARY OF STATE *8585 ARCHIVES AVE* BATON ROUGE, LA 70809

Parish of EAST BATON ROUGE

You are hereby summoned to comply with the demand contained in the PETITION FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT AND DAMAGES & PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO AMEND CAPTION a true and correct copy (exclusive of exhibits) accompanies this citation, or make an appearance, either by filing a pleading or otherwise, in the 11th Judicial District Court in and for the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana, within twentyone (21) days after service hereof, under penalty of default.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL, at Many, Parish of Sabine, Louisiana, on this, the

9TH day of MAY, 2025. Shelly Salter Clerk of Court Maelymu Swindle By: Deputy Clerk of Court Atty: SERVICE INFORMATION _ Moved, address unknown ___ Moved, served at new address of ___ Moved out of parish ___ Address not in Sabine Parish Vacant Residence _Vacant Lot Not known at this address _Received too late for service 16 2025 __ Need physical address Request to hold service by
by tendering a copy of this document to: Deceased __ Other JULIE NESBITT DY. B. GARAFOLA #0577 Attempted service date/time/note: Deputy Sheriff, Parish of East Baton Rouge, LA Attempted service date/time/note: Attempted service date/time/note: Attempted service date/time/note: __ PERSONALLY served on date:_ _DOMICILIARY served on date: __ __ Served upon __ __MILEAGE one way _ UNABLE TO LOCATE after a due and diligent search on date: _ Deputy Sheriff_

[ORIGINAL]

Sabine Parish Sheriff's Department-Louisiana

NOTICE OF SERVICE

HURRICANE WORK LLC

Versus

QUERBES & NELSON, ET AL

Case: 073670

Division:

11th Judicial District Court

Parish of Sabine State of Louisiana

TO: MARTIN K MALEY SR P.O. BOX 3154 BATON ROUGE, LA 70821

Date of Service: May 16, 2025

Number of Service: 1 - NAVIGATOR INS THRU LOUISIANA SECRETARY OF STATE

Personal/Domiciliary: DOMICILIARY

Issued by the Clerk of Court on the 23RD day of MAY, 2025.

Shelly Salter

Clerk of Court

By: Deputy Clerk of Court

Pleading Served:

PETITION FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT

NOTICE OF SERVICE

HURRICANE WORK LLC

Versus

QUERBES & NELSON, ET AL

Case: 073670

Division:

11th Judicial District Court

Parish of Sabine State of Louisiana

TO: MARTIN K MALEY SR P.O. BOX 3154 BATON ROUGE, LA 70821

Date of Service: May 16, 2025

Number of Service: 1 - PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK THRU AGENT - CORPORATION SERVICE CO

Personal/Domiciliary: DOMICILIARY

Issued by the Clerk of Court on the 23^{RD} day of MAY, 2025.

PETITION FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT

Shelly Salter

Clerk of Court

By: Deputy Clerk of Court

Pleading Served:

[FILED COPY]

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FACSIMILE RECEIPT CERTIFICATE

HURRICANE WORK LLC

Versus

QUERBES & NELSON, ET AL



Case: 073670
Division:
11th Judicial District Court
Parish of Sabine
State of Louisiana

TO: THOMAS LOUIS COLLETTA JR 601 POYDRAS STREET, SUITE 2775 NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130

VIA FAX 1-504-310-9195

CERTIFICATE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that a EX PARTE MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO PLEAD & ORDER was transmitted by facsimile from your office to the Sabine Parish Clerk of Court fax line 318-256-9037 and 3 total pages were received and marked filed and received on MAY 29, 2025 in the above captioned matter.

Thus done and signed at Many, Sabine Parish, Louisiana, on this the 29TH day of MAY, 2025.

Atty:	Shelly Salter
•	Clerk of Court

By: Deputy Clerk of Court

Louisiana R.S. 13:850. Facsimile transmission; filings in civil actions; fees; equipment and supplies

- A. Any paper in a civil action may be filed with the court by facsimile transmission. All clerks of court shall make available for their use equipment to accommodate facsimile filing in civil actions. Filing shall be deemed complete at the time that the facsimile transmission is received and a receipt of transmission has been transmitted to the sender by the clerk of court. The facsimile when filed has the same force and effect as the original.
- B. Within seven days, exclusive of legal holidays, after the clerk of court has received the transmission, the party filing the document shall forward the following to the clerk:
- (1) The original signed document.
- (2) The applicable filing fee, if any.
- (3) A transmission fee of five dollars.
- C. If the party fails to comply with the requirements of Subsection B, the facsimile filing shall have no force or effect. The various district courts may provide by court rule for other matters related to filings by facsimile transmission.

REMIT \$_100.00 ___ plus \$5 transmission fee.

[FILED COPY]

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PAGE 1/3

RECEIVED AND FILED

11th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH OF SABINE 11TH 29 A 8: 25

STATE OF LOUISIANA

CASE NO: 73670

DIVISION ***

HURRICANE WORK, LLC

VERSUS

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, ET AL.

FILED: __

DEPUTY CLERK

EXPARTE FIRST MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO PLEAD

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsel, comes Defendant, Navigators Insurance Company ("Navigators"), which respectfully requests a thirty (30) day extension of time, until Friday, July 4, 2025, within which to answer, object or otherwise respond to the Petition for Declaratory Judgement and Damages ("Penition") filed by the plaintiff, Flurricane Work, LLC ("Plaintiff"), as undersigned counsel requires additional time to prepare responsive pleadings: This is Navigators' first request for an extension of time to answer or otherwise plead.

WHEREFORE, Navigators Insurance Company respectfully prays for an Order granting it an extension through Monday, July 7, 2025, to file a responsive pleading to Plaintiff's Petition.

Respectfully Submitted:

Seth A. Schmeeckle, La. Bar No. 27076

Thomas Louis Colletta, Jr., La. Bar No. 26851. Lugenhuhl, Wheaton, Peck, Rankin & Hubbard

Service Control of the Control of th

601 Poydras Street, Suite 2775 New Orleans, LA 70130

Telephone: 504-568-1990 Facsimile: 504-310-9195 Email: sschmeeckle@lawla.com lcolletta@lawls.com

COUNSEL FOR NAVIGATORS INSURANCE COMPANY

Page 1 of 2

2025-05-28 15:36 HDT -

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PAGE 2/3

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on May 28, 2025, a copy of this pleading has been served on all known counsel of record via electronic mail, facsimile and/or United States Mail, postage prepaid.

THOMAS LOUIS COLLETTA, JR.

Page 2 of 2

2025-05-28 15:36 MDT -

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PAGE 3/3

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11° JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH OF SABIND 15 $\pm 1.29~~A~~\approx~25$

STATE OF LOUISIANA

DIVISION ""

SAFILM SMITER CLI AK OF COURT SAEIRE PARISH

CASE NO: 73670

HURRICANE WORK, LLC

VERSUS

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, ET AL.

FILED: DEPUTY CLERK
Considering the foregoing Ex Parte Motion and Order for Extension of Time filed by
Defendant, Navigators Insurance Company;
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Motion is GRANTED, and Navigators Insurance
Company is hereby granted a 30-day extension, up to and including Monday, July 7, 2025, to file
responsive pleadings.
Many, Louisiana this day of, 2025.
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

Lugenbuhl

LUGENBUHL, WHEATON, PECK, RANKIN & HUBBARD

601 POYDRAS STREET | SUITE 2775 | NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130

TELEPHONE: 504 568 1990 | TOOM TELEPHONE: 504.568, 1990 | FACSIMILE: 504,310,9195

_1-2 A 10:41

THOMAS LOUIS COLLETTA, JR. Admitted in Alabama, Louisiana and Texas

May 29, 2025

SUELLY SE-mail Logietta@lawla.com CL KOCOURT SE-SINE PARISH

VIA FEDEX:

Clerk of Court 11th JDC Parish of Sabine 400 Capitol Street, #102 Many, LA 71449

Re:

Hurricane Work, LLC v. Querbes & Nelson, A Partnership, et al 11th Judicial District Court, Parish of Sabine Case Number 73670

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Enclosed with this letter are the following:

- 1. Original Ex Parte First Motion for Extension of Time to Plead;
- 2. Our fax confirmation dated May 29, 2025; and
- 3. Our firm check number 117191 in the amount of \$105.00 to cover the cost of filing.

Please return to us a stamped copy of the Ex Parte First Motion for Extension of Time to Plead in the self-addressed stamped envelope.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Secretary to Thomas Louis Colletta, Jr.

TLC/cr/Enclosures

RECEIVED AND FILED

2025 Jul -2 A 10 41

11th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH OF SABINEER

STATE OF LOUISIANA

SAUME PARISH

CASE NO: 73670

DIVISION ""

HURRICANE WORK, LLC

VERSUS

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, ET AL.

FILED:	
	DEPUTY CLERK

EXPARTE FIRST MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO PLEAD

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsel, comes Defendant, Navigators Insurance Company ("Navigators"), which respectfully requests a thirty (30) day extension of time, until Friday, July 4, 2025, within which to answer, object or otherwise respond to the Petition for Declaratory Judgement and Damages ("Petition") filed by the plaintiff, Hurricane Work, LLC ("Plaintiff"), as undersigned counsel requires additional time to prepare responsive pleadings. This is Navigators' first request for an extension of time to answer or otherwise plead.

WHEREFORE, Navigators Insurance Company respectfully prays for an Order granting it an extension through Monday, July 7, 2025, to file a responsive pleading to Plaintiff's Petition.

Respectfully Submitted:

Seth A. Schmeeckle, La. Bar No. 27076

Thomas Louis Colletta, Jr., La. Bar No. 26851 Lugenbuhl, Wheaton, Peck, Rankin & Hubbard

601 Poydras Street, Suite 2775

New Orleans, LA 70130 Telephone: 504-568-1990

Facsimile: 504-310-9195

Email: sschmeeckle@lawla.com

lcolletta@lawla.com

COUNSEL FOR NAVIGATORS INSURANCE

COMPANY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on May 28, 2025, a copy of this pleading has been served on all known counsel of record via electronic mail, facsimile and/or United States Mail, postage prepaid.

THOMAS LOUIS COLLETTA, JR.

RECEI TO AND FILED

11th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH OF SABINE 2 A 10: 41

STATE OF LOUISIANA

CASE NO: 73670

HURRICANE WORK, LLC

VERSUS

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, ET AL.

FILED:	
	DEPUTY CLERK

Considering the foregoing Ex Parte Motion and Order for Extension of Time filed by Defendant, Navigators Insurance Company;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Motion is GRANTED, and Navigators Insurance Company is hereby granted a 30-day extension, up to and including Monday, July 7, 2025, to file responsive pleadings.

Many, Louisiana this 3 day of June, 2025.

DISTRICT COURT JUDGE Craig Marcotte Judge Pro tempore

2 ec Colletta

File Date: 6/6/2025 12:45 PM Case Number: 73670 Sabine Parish, LA Deputy Clerk: Maelynn Swindle

HURRICANE WORK, LLC

SUIT NO. 73670

DIV.

11TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

versus

*

PARISH OF SABINE

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, ET AL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK BROKERS, LLC'S PEREMPTORY EXCEPTIONS OF PEREMPTION AND NO CAUSE OF ACTION

Peachtree Special Risk Brokers, LLC (hereinafter referred to as "Peachtree"), submits these Peremptory Exceptions of Peremption and No Cause of Action to the Petition for Declaratory Judgment and Damages filed by Plaintiff Hurricane Work, LLC. Peachtree avers that Plaintiff's alleged claims for damages are barred under the three-year preemptive period provided for in La. R.S. 9:5606. Moreover, La. R.S. 22:1892 does not provide Plaintiff with a cause of action against Peachtree, an insurance broker.

ACCORDINGLY, Peachtree requests that this Court sustain the exceptions and dismiss the Plaintiff's Petition with prejudice.

Respectfully submitted, HINSHAW & CULBERTSON LLP

Rv.

TESSA P. VORHABEN (#31293)
400 Poydras Street, Suite 3150
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130
Telephone: (504) 438-1566
Facsimile: (504) 617-7897
Email: tvorhaben@hinshawlaw.com
Attorneys for Defendant

Attorneys for Defendant Peachtree Special Risk Brokers,

LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that on June 6, 2025, a copy of the foregoing Peremptory Exceptions of Peremption and No Cause of Action were served upon all counsel of record via facsimile, email, hand deliver, and or by depositing same in the U.S. Mail to all counsel of record.

TESSA P. VORHABEN

Deputy Clerk: Maelynn Swindle

HURRICANE WORK, LLC * SUIT NO. 73670 DIV.

⁴ 11TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

versus *

* PARISH OF SABINE

QUERBES & NELSON, A *
PARTNERSHIP, ET AL

* STATE OF LOUISIANA

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK BROKERS, LLC'S PEREMPTORY EXCEPTIONS OF PEREMPTION AND NO CAUSE OF ACTION

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsel, comes Defendant, Peachtree Special Risk Brokers, LLC ("Peachtree"), and pursuant to Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure article 927, respectfully submits these Exceptions of Peremption and No Cause of Action. Plaintiff's claims against Peachtree stemming from the Navigator's policy are perempted under Louisiana Revised Statute 9:5606. Further, Louisiana Revised Statute 22:1892 does not provide Plaintiff with a cause of action against Peachtree. Therefore, Peachtree moves this Honorable Court to dismiss Plaintiff's claims with prejudices for the reasons set forth below.

I. SUMMARY OF THE ARGUMENT

Plaintiff's lawsuit alleges that Peachtree, a licensed wholesale insurance broker in the state of Louisiana, acted negligently in procuring insurance coverage for certain equipment beginning in 2018. However, Plaintiff has no possibility of recovery against Peachtree under Louisiana law based on the allegations set forth in the Petition. First, while Plaintiff's claims against Peachtree relate to an insurance policy that was in effect on its February 14, 2024 date of loss, this was a renewal of a policy commencing in 2018. Consequently, Plaintiff's claims are perempted under Louisiana R.S. 9:5606. Moreover, Louisiana R.S. 22:1892 does not provide Plaintiff with a cause of action against Peachtree, an insurance broker. Therefore, Plaintiff has not stated a claim against Peachtree and consequently, Plaintiff's claims against Peachtree should be dismissed with prejudice.

II. <u>FACTUAL BACKGROUND</u>

On February 18, 2025, Plaintiff filed a Petition for Declaratory Judgement and Damages ("Petition") against defendants, including Peachtree, in connection with its February 14, 2024 insurance claim for stolen equipment. See "Exhibit 1", the Petition. Plaintiff's Petition alleges that in 2018, it contracted with defendant insurance agent Querbes & Nelson to purchase insurance for its business operations, and that through Querbes & Nelson, Plaintiff purchased an insurance policy from Navigators Insurance Company ("Navigators"), through an entity

Deputy Clerk: Maelynn Swindle

represented to be an agent of Navigators, Peachtree ("2018 Policy"). See "Exhibit 1", ¶3. Peachtree is a licensed wholesale insurance broker in the State of Louisiana. "Exhibit 1", ¶2. According to Plaintiff's Petition, the 2018 Policy insured certain scheduled pieces of heavy equipment and was renewed each subsequent year, including for the February 16, 2023, to February 16, 2024 policy period ("2023 Policy"). See "Exhibit 1", ¶¶3, 18.

Prior to or on February 14, 2024, Plaintiff alleges that it was notified by its subcontractor that certain items of heavy equipment was stolen from Plaintiff's job site in Puerto Rico, including two items of equipment reported as missing since 2019. See "Exhibit 1", ¶¶ 9, 11-12. Plaintiff asserts that it reported the theft to Navigators, through Querbes & Nelson, on February 14, 2024, and that on September 26, 2024, Navigators issued to Plaintiff a reservations of rights letter on the basis that Plaintiff had no insurable interest in the stolen equipment. See "Exhibit 1", ¶¶ 13, 15. Plaintiff's Petition seeks an order from this Court declaring that the 2023 Policy provides coverage for Plaintiff's claim. See Exhibit "1", ¶23. Alternatively, if there is no insurance coverage for the stolen equipment, then Plaintiff alleges that Querbes & Nelson and Peachtree are liable under La. R.S. 22:1892 for allegedly misrepresenting the insurance coverage and negligently failing to provide Navigators with information sufficient to procure the requested insurance policy, including allegedly failing to advise Plaintiff to name the subcontractors as additional insureds on the policy. "Exhibit 1", ¶¶28, 30-35. As a result of Querbes & Nelson and Peachtree's alleged negligence, Plaintiff is seeking penalties and attorneys' fees, as well as the reimbursement of seven (7) years of policy premium. Id.

III. <u>LAW AND ARGUMENT</u>

The objections of peremption and no cause of action are raised by the peremptory exception. La. Code of Civ. Proc. art. 927. Ordinarily, the exceptor bears the burden of proof at the trial of the peremptory exception. However, if peremption is evident on the face of the pleadings, the burden shifts to the plaintiff to show that the action has not perempted. Periso v. Vu, 2018 WL 1125868 (La. App. 1 Cir. 03/02/18), citing Satterfield & Pontikes Construction, Inc. v Breazeale Sachse & Wilson, LLP, 2015-1355 (La. App. 1 Cir. 1/10/17), 212 So.3d 554, 558, writ denied, 2017-0268 (La. 3/31/17), 217 So.3d 363.

Case Number: 073670 Transaction Date: 6/6/2025 Seq: 13 Page Sequence: 2

Deputy Clerk: Maelynn Swindle

A. Any Claims Against Peachtree are Perempted.

Louisiana R.S. 9:5606(A) provides, in pertinent part:

A. No action for damages against any insurance agent, broker, solicitor, or other similar licensee under this state, whether based upon tort, or breach of contract, or otherwise, arising out of an engagement to provide insurance services shall be brought unless filed in a court of competent jurisdiction and proper venue within one year from the date of the alleged act, omission, or neglect, or within one year from the date that the alleged act, omission, or neglect is discovered or should have been discovered. However, even as to actions filed within one year from the date of such discovery, in all events such actions shall be filed at the latest within three years from the date of the alleged act, omission, or neglect.

D. The one-year and three-year periods of limitation provided in Subsection A of this Section are peremptive periods within the meaning of Civil Code Article 3458 and, in accordance with Civil Code Article 3461, may not be renounced, interrupted, or suspended.

Thus, "La. R.S. 9:5606 provides to preemptive periods: one year from the date of the alleged negligent act or omission; or, one year from the date the negligence was discovered or should have been discovered, as long as the date is within three years of the alleged negligent act or omission." S. Marble Specialties v. Cholley, 22-602, at *13 (La. App. 3 Cir. 05/03/23), 265 So.3d 885. In Cholley, following Hurricane Laura on August 27, 2020, the plaintiff filed suit against defendant for damages allegedly sustained after defendant allegedly reduced its business income and extra expense coverage for the 2017-2018 policy period without its consent. Id. at *2. Defendant filed a peremptory exception alleging that plaintiff's claims are "perempted on their face" because the alleged negligent act of reducing the coverage occurred on November 7, 2017, and Plaintiff waited over three years before filing the suit on August 18, 2021. Id. at *4. Plaintiff argued that the 2017 policy is irrelevant because the loss occurred during the 2019-2020 policy, and the 2019-2020 was a new policy, not a renewal. Id. The Louisiana Third Circuit Court of Appeals disagreed with plaintiff, finding that the 2019 policy was a renewal policy under La. R.S. 22:1267.1 Id. at 15. Because the alleged negligent act occurred in 2017, and plaintiff did not file its petition against defendant until August 18, 2021, well beyond the threeyear peremptive period set forth in La. R.S. 9:5606, the Court reversed the trial court and granted defendant's exception of peremption. Id. at 20.

¹B. For the purposes of this Section, the following terms shall mean:

^{(5) &}quot;Renewal" or "to renew" means the issuance of or the offer to issue by the insurer a policy succeeding a policy previously issued and delivered by the same insurer or an insurer within the same group of insurers, or the issuance of a certificate or notice extending the term of an existing policy for a specified period beyond its expiration date.

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Similar to Cholley, Plaintiff's claims against Peachree are perempted under La. R.S.

9:5606. Here, Plaintiff's Petition was filed on February 18, 2025; therefore, the date of

negligence or discovery must have occurred within one year prior to this date. If the negligence

was only discovered within one year prior to this date, the negligent act must have occurred

within the last three years. See Cholley, 365 So.3d at 891. In Plaintiff's Petition, it identified the

2018 Policy as the date when defendants allegedly failed to advise Plaintiff or procure insurance

covering its subcontractors' equipment and/or misrepresented the insurance coverages provided,

i.e. the "alleged negligent act, omission, or neglect." Accordingly, under the three-year

peremption period in La. R.S. 9:5606, Plaintiff's claims for professional negligence of an

insurance agent are perempted on the face of the Petition.

B. Plaintiff Does Not Have a Cause of Action Against Peachtree under La. R.S.

22:1892.

In Plaintiff's Petition, Plaintiff alleges that defendants, including Peachtree, are liable

under Louisiana R.S. 22:1892 for failing to comply with their contractual duties and

misrepresenting pertinent facts or insurance policy provisions relating to coverages at issue.

"Exhibit 1", ¶¶31-35. However, Plaintiff does not have a cause of action against Peachtree for

bad faith under La. R.S. 22:1892. Louisiana courts have repeatedly held that Louisiana R.S.

22:1892 only provides for bad faith claims against insurance companies, not insurance agents or

brokers. See Staub v. QBE Specialty Ins. Co., 2024 WL 167150, at *5 (E.D. La. Jan. 16, 2024),

citing Geovera Specialty Ins. Co. v. Joachin, No. CV 18-7577, 2019 WL 3238557, at *7 (E.D.

La. July 18, 2019); IFG Port Holdings, LLC v. Underwriters at Lloyd's, 2021 WL 2604784, at

*3 (W.D. La. June 24, 2021). Therefore, Plaintiff has not stated a bad faith claim against

Peachtree, as the insurance broker under La. R.S. 22:1892, and Peachtree's Exception of No

Cause of Action should be granted.

IV. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

Plaintiff's claims against Peachtree are perempted under Louisiana R.S. 9:5606 because it

waited well beyond the three-year peremptive period to file this Petition. Moreover, Plaintiff

does not have a cause of action against Peachtree under Louisiana R.S. 22:1892 because the

statute only applies to insurance companies, and not insurance brokers or agents. Accordingly,

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Deputy Clerk: Maelynn Swindle

Peachtree respectfully requests that this Court grant Peachtree's Peremptory Exceptions and dismiss Plaintiff's claims against it with prejudice.

Respectfully submitted, HINSHAW & CULBERTSON LLP

Bv:

TESSA P. VORHABEN (#31293) 400 Poydras Street, Suite 3150 New Orleans, Louisiana 70130 Telephone: (504) 438-1566 Facsimile: (504) 617-7897 Email: tvorhaben@hinshawlaw.com

Attorneys for Defendant Peachtree Special Risk Brokers,

LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that on June 6, 2025, a copy of the foregoing Peremptory Exceptions of Peremption and No Cause of Action were served upon all counsel of record via facsimile, email, hand deliver, and or by depositing same in the U.S. Mail to all counsel of record.

TESSA P. VORHABEN

Case 5:25-cv-00842-SMH-MLH Document 1-1 Filed 06/16/25 Page 43 of 62 PageID #: 54

File Date: 6/6/2025 12:45 PM Case Number: 73670 Sabine Parish, LA Deputy Clerk: Maelynn Swindle

HURRICANE WORK, LLC **SUIT NO. 73670** DIV.

11TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

versus PARISH OF SABINE

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, ET AL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

REQUEST FOR NOTICE

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsel comes defendant Peachtree Special Risk Brokers, LLC ("Peachtree" or "Defendant"), made defendant herein, who requests that this Court provide it with written notice 10 days in advance of the date fixed for a trial or hearing on any exception, motion, rule or trial on the merits pursuant to Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure article 1572.

Defendant further requests immediate notice of any and all interlocutory and final orders and judgments on any exception, motion, rule or trial on the merits pursuant to Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure articles 1913 and 1914.

> Respectfully submitted, HINSHAW & CULBERTSON LLP

TESSA P. VORHABEN (#31293) 400 Poydras Street, Suite 3150 New Orleans, Louisiana 70130 Telephone: (504) 438-1566 Facsimile: (504) 617-7897 Email: tvorhaben@hinshawlaw.com Attorneys for Defendant

Peachtree Special Risk Brokers, LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that on June 6, 2025, a copy of the foregoing Request for Notice was served upon all counsel of record via facsimile, email, hand deliver, and or by depositing same in the U.S. Mail to all counsel of record.

TESSA P. VORHABEN

File Date: 6/6/2025 12:45 PM Case Number: 73670

Sabine Parish, LA Deputy Clerk: Maelynn Swindle

HURRICANE WORK, LLC

SUIT NO. 73670

DIV.

11TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

versus

PARISH OF SABINE

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, ET AL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK BROKERS, LLC'S RULE TO SHOW CAUSE

Considering the foregoing:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that all parties appear on the 3 day of August,

p.m., to show cause as to why the Peremptory Exceptions of Peremption

and No Cause of Action of Peachtree Special Risk Brokers, LLC should not be granted.

Signed at MANY, LOUISIANA this 4

day of Jun

JUDGE VERITY GENTRY Craig Marcotte

CLERK, PLEASE SERVE:

Hurricane Work, LLC Through counsel of record Martin K. Maley, Sr. Maley Law Firm 4707 Bluebonnet Blvd, Suite B Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809

Navigators Insurance Company Through counsel of record Thomas L. Colletta Jr. Lugenbuhl, Wheaton, Peck, Rankin & Hubbard 601 Poydras Street, Suite 2775 New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

CLERK, PLEASE NOTIFY BY U.S. MAIL:

Peachtree Special Risk Brokers, LLC Through counsel of record Tessa P. Vorhaben Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP 400 Poydras Street, Suite 3150 New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

#: 56

File Date: 6/6/2025 12:45 PM Case Number: 73670 Sabine Parish, LA Deputy Clerk: Maelynn Swindle



Notice of Service of Process

KN4 / ALL Transmittal Number: 31439893 Date Processed: 05/17/2025

Primary Contact:

Brittany Zalich Brown & Brown, Inc. 300 N Beach St Daytona Beach, FL 32114-3304

Electronic copy provided to:

Lauren Meyerhoffer Cheryl Gortmans Dahiana Monge-Barlow Maria Leal Julie Jones

Entity:

Peachtree Special Risk Brokers, LLC Entity ID Number 3971284

Entity Served:

Peachtree Special Risk Brokers, LLC Hurricane Work, LLC vs. Querbes & Nelson, A Partnership

Title of Action: Matter Name/ID:

Hurricane Work, LLC vs. Querbes & Nelson, A Partnership (17334610)

Document(s) Type:

Citation/Petition

Nature of Action:

Contract

Court/Agency:

Sabine Parish District Court, LA

Case/Reference No: Jurisdiction Served: 73670

Louisiana Date Served on CSC: 05/16/2025 Answer or Appearance Due: 21 Days Originally Served On:

CSC

How Served: Sender Information:

Personal Service Maley Law Firm 225-346-6781

Information contained on this transmittal form is for record keeping, notification and forwarding the attached document(s). It does not constitute a legal opinion. The recipient is responsible for interpreting the documents and taking appropriate action.

To avoid potential delay, please do not send your response to CSC 251 Little Falls Drive, Wilmington, Delaware 19808-1674 (888) 690-2882 | sop@cscglobal.com

Exhibit 1

Case Number: 073670 Transaction Date: 6/6/2025 Seq: 10 Page Sequence: 1

Parish, LA Clork: Maelynn Swindie	Ci	TATION	
HURRICANE WORK LLC			Case: 073670
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Versus			IIth Judicial District Co
QUERBES & NELSON, ET	₫ L		Parish of Sabine State of Louisiana
THROUGH ITS A		ROCESS	,
Parish of EAST BATON I	ROUGE		•
You are hereby sum	moned to comply with the de	emand contained in the PETITI	ON FOR DECLARATE
		ION TO AMEND CAPTION a	
		ake an appearance, either by fi	
otherwise, in the 11th Jua	licial District Court in and fo	r the Parish of Sabine, State of	Louisiana, within tw
one (21) days after servic	e hereof, under penalty of de	fault.	
GIVEN UNDER M	' HAND AND OFFICIAL SE	AL, at Many, Parish of Sabine,	Louisiana, on this, the
9TH day of MAY, 2025.		Shelly Salter	
		Clerk of Court	
		Clerk by Colors	
		Maelyvan Swindle	
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File Date: 6/5/2025 12:45 PM Case Number: 73870 Sabine Parish, LA Deputy Clerk: Maelynn Swindle

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HURRICANE WORK, LLC

NUMBER: SHELLY SALTER 8TH JUDICIAL DISTRIGE GOURT

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, ET AL

PARISH OF SABINE

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PETITION FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT AND DAMAGES

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsel, comes Hurricane Work, LLC, (hereafter referred to as "Hurricane") a limited liability company created under the laws of Puerto Rico, solely doing business in Puerto Rico, whose corporate office is in Louisiana, in the Parish of Sabine, who with respect represents the following:

NAMED DEFENDANTS HEREIN

- 1) QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP; and
- 2) NELSON HOLDINGS PARTNERSHIP; and
- 3) QUERBES & NELSON, INC; and
- 4) PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK BROKERS, LLC; and
- 5) NAVIGATORS INSURANCE COMPANY.

1.

Plaintiff HURRICANE WORK, LLC, hereafter ("HURRICANE") a limited liability company created under the laws of Puerto Rico, solely doing business in Puerto Rico, but its corporate office and headquarters, is in the Parish of Sabine, State of Louisiana. The events which are set forth below occurred in Louisiana in Sabine Parish, and the insurance policy at issue was delivered to Plaintiff in Sabine Parish, on a Louisiana insurance policy form.

Named defendants herein are QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, an entity created under the laws of an unknown jurisdiction, possibly Louisiana, that is licensed as an insurance producer by the Louisiana Department of Insurance, and does or did business in Caddo Parish, Louisiana; NELSON HOLDINGS PARTNERSHIP a partnership created under the law of Louisiana, headquartered in and is doing business is the State of Louisiana in Caddo Parish which Page 1 of 11

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entity may be an alternate name for, or successor entity of defendant QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP; and QUERBES & NELSON INC. QUERBES & NELSON INC is a Louisiana corporation doing business in Caddo Parish which is alternatively alleged to be a successor entity to defendant QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP and/or to have done business with Plaintiff as defendant QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP. These entities will hereafter be referred to collectively as "QUERBES & NELSON" unless specifically stated otherwise. PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK BROKERS LLC (hereafter "PEACHTREE") is an entity created under the laws of the State of Georgia which has qualified to do business in the State of Louisiana and on information and belief has been licensed as an insurance producer by the State of Louisiana under the name PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK, LLC. Also, a named Defendant is NAVIGATORS INSURANCE COMPANY, hereafter "Navigators." Navigators is a foreign insurance company domiciled in the State of New York that is admitted to and doing business in the State of Louisiana.

3.

Plaintiff, HURRICANE, contracted with QUERBES & NELSON beginning approximately 2018 to purchase insurance for its business operations. HURRICANE was created to do work in Puerto Rico and exclusively does business in Puerto Rico even though its corporate headquarters is in Louisiana. Through QUERBES & NELSON Hurricane purchased a policy of casualty insurance from Navigators Insurance Company, through an entity represented to be an agent of Navigators, Defendant, PEACHTREE. The Policy provided insurance on certain scheduled pieces of heavy equipment listed in the policy. This policy was renewed each year after 2018 and was in effect on February 14, 2024. From time to time the equipment scheduled in the policy was changed for business reasons. At the execution of the insurance contract, Hurricane was not supplied a complete copy of the insurance policy, just the declarations page, and the schedules. Hurricane relied on the representations of QUERBES & NELSON that the policy would provide coverage for the equipment listed in the policy.

Prior to the initial purchase of the policy, QUERBES & NELSON was fully informed about Plaintiff's business operations. Hurricane is a contractor solely providing services in Puerto Rico, one of which is the cleanup of debris from natural disasters. QUERBES & NELSON was

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specifically told that Plaintiff used subcontractors to perform part, or all the tasks that Plaintiff contracts to perform. Plaintiff expressly and intentionally purchased a policy and bought coverage from Navigators under which equipment belonging to Plaintiff's subcontractors, could be insured as scheduled equipment on Plaintiff's insurance policy. This fact was known to QUERBES & NELSON. QUERBES & NELSON assured Plaintiff that the policy that was issued provided coverage for such equipment belonging to subcontractors, working for Plaintiff and there was no need to name the subcontractors as additional insureds, if the equipment was on the policy schedule.

This coverage was necessary because Plaintiff has contracts to perform work in diverse remote locations, and the equipment belonging to the subcontractors must remain at Plaintiff's job site until the job is done. The insurance provides assurance that Plaintiff will have equipment available to perform the work, at the remote locations that Plaintiff's contracts require.

The Policy, which was issued by NAVIGATORS, does in fact, contain a clause under the heading "Covered Property" stating that "Scheduled Equipment" includes equipment belonging to subcontractors is covered. The policy shows PEACHTREE as the agent on the policy.

In another section the Policy has a clause stating that the policy only insures the insured's "insurable interest" in the equipment.

QUERBES & NELSON knew that the subcontractors were not named as additional insureds under the policy, but in fact owned some equipment listed on the policy schedule and represented that this fact was transmitted to Navigators and Navigators accepted the premiums from Plaintiff, with that knowledge.

9.

As reported to Plaintiff, prior to February 14, 2024, certain scheduled items of heavy equipment at a Plaintiff job site in Puerto Rico were stolen. The theft was discovered by the subcontractor on February 14, 2024, and the claim was reported to Navigators. Navigators

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subsequently issued a <u>RESERVATION OF RIGHTS LETTER</u> to Plaintiff, stating that Navigators reserved the right to deny this claim. Navigators asserted that the Plaintiff did not have an insurable interest in the stolen equipment, even though the facts were exactly as represented to QUERBES & NELSON.

10.

Plaintiff as a part of the work in Puerto Rico had subcontracted with GRINDCO, LLC. (hereafter "GRINDCO) to mulch the green waste storm debris at various disposal sites. After subcontracting with Grindco, the equipment belonging to Grindco was scheduled on Plaintiff's policy with Navigators. The equipment was then moved to a location known as "Isabella Recycling" in Puerto Rico which was to be the final resting place of the mulched material. This equipment was moved based on the representation that it was fully insured under the NAVIGATORS policy issued to Plaintiff.

At least the following items, Inter Alia, of scheduled equipment under the policy belonging to Grindco were placed at the Disposal Site, for use on the job in anticipation of the performance of the subcontract obligation, to mulch storm debris cleared from roadways (2019) and were discovered missing on February 14, 2024:

PROPERTY MISSING ON OR ABOUT FEBRUARY 14, 2024 (11 PIECES):

New Holland Excavator Serial; NFTN55394 Model; E55BX

JCB Mini Excavator Scrial: JC808040A0105674 Model:840

Hogzilla Track Mounted Tub Grinder Serial: 2026 Model: 1464T

Hogzilla Tub Grinder Serial:566 Model:TC#15-64P

Komatsu Excavator Serial:30107 Model: PC308USLC-3EO

Volvo Loader Serial: G17227 Model: L90G

Volvo Loader Serial: G17093 Medel: L90G

Volvo Excavator Serial: 210435 Model: 220D Volvo Excavator Serial: 210437 Model: 220D

Mitsubishi Dozer Serial: ZB103448 Model: BDZG II

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John Deere Serial: DW644JX596442 Model:644J

The value of the missing equipment is in excess of \$1 Million.

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Certain other equipment was reported to Navigators as missing in 2019 and Navigators has maintained an open claim as to the following items.

PROPERTY MISSING SINCE 2019:

Takeuchi Serial: 123503829 Model:

Takeuchi Serial: 124001037 Model:

As a result of this claim Navigators was fully aware of the risk that was insured under its policy that the equipment was being used in Puerto Rico.

Hurricane reported the theft to Navigators, through QUERBES & NELSON on February 14, 2024, and the theft was also reported to the local police in Puerto Rico. The thief or thieves have not yet been identified, to date, and the equipment has not been recovered. The equipment is not available to Grindco to do the work, Grindco subcontracted to do for Plaintiff.

14.

Navigators took very limited action to investigate the claim and has not paid the claim, to date.

15.

After taking little action to investigate the claim, for eight months, on September 26, 2024, Navigators provided to Plaintiff the reservation of rights letter mentioned above.

The reservation of rights letter stated on page 2, that there is a question as to whether Plaintiff had an insurable interest in the stolen property.

The insurance policy that Navigators issued to Plaintiff is policy number NY23ILM0Bi1B4-01. This insurance policy will henceforth be referred to as "The Policy".

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18.

The relevant effective dates for the 2024 claim on the policy were February 16, 2023, until February 16, 2024. The Plaintiff could not renew the policy, at its expiration on February 16, 2024, because the equipment in question had been stolen.

The Policy was issued to Hurricane Work, LLC, and signed in Louisiana on a Louisiana Insurance form.

20.

The Policy co	ntained the following forms and endorsements:
CL 100	03-99 COMMON POLICY CONDITIONS
IM 7005	01-12 SCHEDULE OF CVGS-CONTRACTORS' EQUIPMENT
ADDENDUM	1 A EQUIPMENT SCHEDULE
IM 7000	04-04 CONTRACTORS' EQUIPMENT COVERAGE SCHED-EQUIP
IM 7034	01-12 TOOLS ENDORSEMENT
IM 7035	01-12 EQUIPMENT LEASED OR RENTED TO OTHERS SCHED
IM 7013	04-04 EQUIPMENT LEASED OR RENTED TO OTHERS ENDT
IM 7036	07-11 EQUIPMENT LEASED OR RENTED FROM OTHERS SCHED
IM 7012	07-11 EQUIPMENT LEASED OR RENTED FROM OTHERS ENDT
IM 7870	01-12 SPLIT DEDUCTABLE ENDORSEMENT
IM 7039	07-11 BELOW THE SURFACE OF THE GROUND EXCLUSION
IM 7902	01-12 LOSS PAYABLE SCHEDULE
IM 7854	04-04 LOSS PAYABLE OPTIONS
CL 0196	03-17 AMENDATORY ENDORSEMENT-LOUISIANA
IM 2037	10-22 AMENDATORY ENDORSEMENT-LOUISIANA
CL 0610	01-15 CERTIFIED ACT OF TERRORISM EXCLUSION
CL 0700	10-06 VIRUS OR BACTERIA EXCLUSION

The schedule of equipment attached to the policy listed all the equipment identified in Paragraph 11.

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22.

After Navigators issued the reservation of rights letter sent September 26, 2024, contending that Plaintiff had no insurable interest in the equipment reported stolen. Plaintiff sued Navigators seeking a declaratory judgment in the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana determining that there is coverage for the equipment. The United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana has not made a final determination that it has jurisdiction over the declaratory judgment action. Though the magistrate has, on a preliminary basis, found jurisdiction. For that reason, the allegations against Navigators made below are made alternatively, in the event that the Federal Court determines that it does not have jurisdiction.

23.

Plaintiff is entitled to a DECLARATORY JUDGMENT interpreting the insurance policy at issue determining that Plaintiff, in fact has an insurable interest in the equipment of its subcontractors scheduled in the policy, specifically including the equipment listed above in Paragraph 11, and that under the terms of the policy the equipment is insured against theft, which policy was in full force and effect on February 14, 2024.

24.

La. C.C.P. Art 1873 provides for the issuance of a DECLARATORY JUDGMENT, interpreting a contract, regardless of whether there has been a breach of the contract.

Plaintiff is entitled to a DECLARATORY JUDGMENT interpreting the insurance policy at issue, determining that Plaintiff in fact, has an insurable interest in the equipment of its subcontractors scheduled in the policy, specifically including the equipment listed above in Paragraph 11. Under the terms of the policy the equipment is insured against theft, which policy was in full force, and effect on February 14, 2024.

It is alleged alternatively that QUERBES & NELSON provided some or all the information that it had about Plaintiff's business to PEACHTREE and that the knowledge to PEACHTREE constituted knowledge to NAVIGATORS and NAVIGATORS knew that it was insuring the subcontractor equipment under Plaintiff's policy.

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It is alleged alternatively that QUERBES & NELSON was negligent and failed to provide sufficient information to PEACHTREE and/or NAVIGATORS for NAVIGATORS to issue a policy insuring the risk that Plaintiff contracted with QUERBES & NELSON to insure.

28.

It is alleged alternatively that QUERBES & NELSON provided sufficient information to PEACHTREE to understand the risk which was being insured, and PEACHTREE was negligent and failed to provide NAVIGATORS with sufficient information to issue a policy insuring the risk that Plaintiff contracted with QUERBES & NELSON to insure.

After the reservation of rights letter was issued QUERBES & NELSON advised Plaintiff to start listing the subcontractors as insureds on its policy even though throughout the existence of the policy to that point QUERBES & NELSON had advised Plaintiff that this was not necessary.

30.

It is alleged that either QUERBES & NELSON or PEACHTREE, or both, were negligent in providing the earlier representation to Plaintiff that it was not necessary to name the subcontractors as additional insureds on the policy.

La. Stat. Ann. § 22:1892 provides the following:

1 (2) Any one of the following acts, if knowingly committed or performed by an insured, claimant, or representative of the insured or claimant, constitutes a breach of the insured's duties imposed in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection:

I (2)(a) A failure to comply with affirmative contractual duties or obligations established in the insurance policy, including the duty to act in good faith in providing information regarding the claim, in making demands of the insurer, in setting deadlines, and in attempting to settle the claim.

1 (2)(b) A misrepresentation of pertinent facts or insurance policy provisions relating to any coverages at issue.

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32.

If it is determined that Navigators reservation of rights is correct, and there is no insurable interest in the lost equipment, then QUERBES & NELSON, and/or PEACHTREE, misrepresented the facts concerning insurance coverage under the policy, when Plaintiff was advised that it was not necessary to name the subcontractors as insured parties under the policy, and when they collected the premiums.

The misrepresentation of the coverage under the insurance policy, has at least resulted in a delay of payment of the claim by Navigators, and may cause further damage if the claim is not paid.

34.

Plaintiff is entitled to a JUDGMENT AWARDING PENALTIES AND ATTORNEY FEES for the misrepresentation of the policy terms.

In the alternative, if this there was no coverage for the equipment provided under the policy for the scheduled equipment, Plaintiff is entitled to reimbursement of the seven years of policy premiums, plus penalties and interest, be returned to Hurricane Work, LLC, without any further delay.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Hurricane Work, LLC, prays alternatively for relief in that the Court as follows:

1. If the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana determines that it has no jurisdiction then Plaintiff prays that this Court enter a Declaratory Judgment under La. C.C.P. Art 1871-1873 determining that Plaintiff in fact, has an insurable interest, in the equipment of its subcontractors scheduled in the policy, specifically including the equipment listed herein, and that under the terms of the policy the equipment is insured against theft, which policy was in full force and effect on February 14, 2024;

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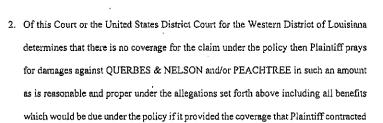
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- and The Court award Plaintiff penalties and attorney fees under La. R.S. 22:1892 for breach of the duty of good faith and fair dealing;
- 4. Alternatively, in the event that the Court determines that the contractors equipment scheduled on the policy is not in fact covered, because Hurricane does not have an insurable interest in the scheduled property, then Hurricane prays for judgment in favor of Hurricane Work, LLC and against QUERBES & NELSON and/or PEACHTREE in the amount of all premiums paid for the insurance policy from its inception in 2018 until it's expiration in 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin K Malcy, Sr., La. Bar Roll Nd. 20933 Stephen M. Irving., La. Bar Roll No. 7170 William E. Maley, La. Bar Roll No. 41328

Maley Law Firm PO Box 3154 Baton Rouge, LA 70821 Telephone: (225) 346-6781 Facsimile: (225) 346-6788

Facsimile: (225) 346-6788
Email: mkmaley@eatel.net
 Steve@steveirvinglic.com
 Miflegal_William@eatel.net

Attorneys for Hurricane Work, LLC

PLEASE SERVE THE DEFENDANTS AS FOLLOWS:

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP George D. Nelson, Jr. PLEASE WITHOLD SERVICE FOR 90 DAYS

NELSON HOLDINGS PARTNERSHIP George D. Nelson, Jr. PLEASE WITHOLD SERVICE FOR 90 DAYS

QUERBES & NELSON, INC Through its agent for service of process:

Page 10 of 11

ATRUE COPY ATTEST
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DEPUTY CLERK 19TH JUDICIAL

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DISTRICT COURT, SABINE PARISH, LA

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Case 5:25-cv-00842-SMH-MLH

File Date: 8/6/2025 12:45 PM

Case Number: 73670
Sabine Paristh, LA
Deputy Clerk: Maelynn Swindie

Document 1-1

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George D. Nelson, Jr.
PLEASE WITHOLD SERVICE FOR 90 DAYS

PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK BROKERS, LLC Through its agent for service of process:
PLEASE WITHOLD SERVICE FOR 90 DAYS

NAVIGATORS INSURANCE COMPANY Through its agent for service of process: PLEASE WITHOLD SERVICE FOR 90 DAYS

Page 11 of 11

Case Number: 073670 Transaction Date: 6/6/2025 Seq: 10 Page Sequence: 13

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File Date: 6/6/2025 12:45 PM Case Number: 73670 Sabine Parlsh, LA Deputy Clark: Maelynn Swindle

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Filed 06/16/25 Page 58 of 62 PageID

#: 69

RECEIVED AND FILED 2025 FEB 27 P 3: 43

HURRICANE WORK, LLC SHELLY SALTENUMBER: 73670 DIV:

CLERK OF COURT
SABONE PAR SIAM JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, ET AL

PARISH OF SABINE STATE OF LOUISIANA

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO AMEND CAPTION

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsel, comes Plaintiff, Hurricane Work, LLC, who respectfully represents it desires to amend the original Petition for Declaratory Judgment and Damages, as follows:

1.

Plaintiff re-alleges all of the allegations and contentions stated in the original Petition for Declaratory Judgment and Damages, with the following modifications adopted by reference with the same force and effect as if herein set forth at length.

Plaintiff desires to correct the caption on the original pleading due to inadvertently putting the "8th Judicial District Court". Plaintiff seeks to correct the judicial district to read, "11th Judicial District Court".

Leave of the court is not necessary to file this request to amend the caption because no answers has been filed, to date.

Wherefore, Plaintiff, Hurricane Work, LLC, prays that each and every allegation and prayer in the original Petition for Damages not amended by these pleadings be incorporated by reference in its entirety and for all relief requested in the original petition.

[Signature on following page]

Page 1 of 2

Case Number: 073670 Transaction Date: 6/6/2025 Seq: 10 Page Sequence: 14 1 (0) 1 (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Martin K. Maley, Sr., La. Bar Roll No. 20933 Stephen M. Irving., La. Bar Roll No. 7170 William E. Maley, La. Bar Roll No. 41328 Maley Law Firm Maley Law Firm PO Box 3154

Baton Rouge, LA 70821 Telephone: (225) 346-6781 Facsimile: (225) 346-6788 Email: mkmaley@eatel.net
Steve@steveirvingllc.com
Miflegal_William@eatel.net
Attorneys for Hurricane Work, LLC

PLEASE WITHHOLD SERVICE AT THIS TIME:

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP

George D. Nelson, Jr. 207 Texas Street Shreveport, LA 71101

NELSON HOLDINGS PARTNERSHIP

George D. Nelson, Jr. 207 Texas Street Shreveport, LA 71101

QUERBES & NELSON, INC

Through its agent for service of process: George D. Nelson, Jr. 207 Texas Street Shreveport, LA 71101

PEACHTREE SPECIAL RISK BROKERS, LLC Through its agent for service of process:
Corporation Service Company
450 Laurel Street, 8th Floor Baton Rouge, LA 70801

NAVIGATORS INSURANCE COMPANY Through its agent for service of process:

Louisiana Secretary of State 8585 Archives Ave Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Page 2 of 2

Maely nu Sundk
DEPUTY CLERK 117H JUDICIAL
DISTRICT COURT, SABINE PARISH, LA

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NOTICE OF HEARING

HURRICANE WORK, LLC

VERSUS

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, ET



Case: 73,670

Division:

11th Judicial District Court

Parish of Sabine

State of Louisiana

TO: TESSA P. VORHABEN 400 POYDRAS STREET, SUITE 3150 NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130 9414 7266 9904 2230 5213 43

Parish of SABINE

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the above numbered and captioned case has been set down for Hearing on AUGUST 13, 2025, at 9:00 A.M., all as set out in a certified copy which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

WITNESS THE HONORABLE JUDGES of said Court, on this the 12^{TH} day of JUNE, 2025.

Atty:

Shelly Salter Clerk of Court

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that this Notice was MAILED to the above person(s)on the

 12^{TH} day of JUNE, 2025.

Shelly Salter, Clork of Court

RULE TO SHOW CAUSE

HURRICANE WORK LLC

Versus

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, ET AL



Case: 073670 Division: 11th Judicial District Court Parish of Sabine State of Louisiana

TO: HURRICANE WORK LLC
THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD
MARTIN K. MALEY, SR.
MALEY LAW FIRM
4707 BLUEBONNET BLVD., SUITE B
BATON ROUGE, LA 70809

Parish of EAST BATON ROUGE

You are hereby cited to show cause in the District Court Room at the Court House in the City of Many, Louisiana, on the 13TH day of AUGUST, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. why the rule issued by the Judge of said Court under date of JUNE 6, 2025 a certified copy whereof is hereto attached, should not be made absolute.

WITNESS MY OFFICIAL HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE at Many, Louisiana, on this the 12^{TII} day of JUNE, 2025.

Shelly Salter Clerk of Court

		By: Clerk of Court	
	SERVICE INFO	ORMATION	
Moved, address unknown	Moved, served at new address of	<u></u>	
Moved out of parish	_Address not in SabineParish	Does not live at address given	
Vacant Residence	Vacant Lot	No such address	
Not known at this address	Need physical address	Received too late for service	
Deceased	Other	Request to hold service by	
zmempreu ser vice uure/imte/101e			
PERSONALLY served on date:			
DOMICILIARY served on date:	Served upon	Relationship:	
MILEAGE one way			
UNABLE TO LOCATE after a	due and diligent search on date:		
Recipient	Deputy Sheriff_		
		Sabine Parish Sheriff's Department—Louisiana	

[FILED COPY]

RULE TO SHOW CAUSE

HURRICANE WORK LLC

Versus

QUERBES & NELSON, A PARTNERSHIP, ET AL



Case: 073670 Division: 11th Judicial District Court Parish of Sabine State of Louisiana

TO: NAVIGATORS INSURANCE COMPANY
THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD
THOMAS L. COLLETTA, JR.
LUGENBUHL, WHEATON, PECK, RANKIN & HUBBARD
601 POYDRAS STREET, SUITE 2775
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130

Parish of ORLEANS

You are hereby cited to show cause in the District Court Room at the Court House in the City of Many, Louisiana, on the 13TH day of AUGUST, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. why the rule issued by the Judge of said Court under date of JUNE 6, 2025 a certified copy whereof is hereto attached, should not be made absolute.

WITNESS MY OFFICIAL HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE at Many, Louisiana, on this the 12^{TII} day of JUNE, 2025.

Shelly Salter Clerk of Court

	SERVICE INF	ORMATION
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Moved out of parish	Address not in Sabine Parish	Does not live at address given
Vacant Residence	Vacant Lot	No such address
Not known at this address	Need physical address	Received too late for service
Deceased	Other	Request to hold service by
Attemptea service aate/time/note:		
PERSONALLY served on date:		
DOMICILIARY served on date:	Served upon	Relationship:
MILEAGE one way		
UNABLE TO LOCATE after a	due and diligent search on date:	
Recipient	Deputy Sheriff	
		Sabine Parish Sheriff's Department—Louisiana

[FILED COPY]